



NOTICE TO ALL PUBLIC CONTRACTORS, CONSULTANTS, SUBCONTRACTORS, AND SUBCONSULTANTS

From the Consultant Services Unit with the Mississippi Department of Transportation, please be advised of the following:

Federal law currently requires that all employers verify the identity and employment eligibility of all new employees within three business days of hire. As a result of the Mississippi Employment Protection Act passed by the Mississippi Legislature, effective Tuesday, July 1, 2008, all public employers, contractors, consultants, subcontractors, subconsultants, and third-party employers must certify their registration and participation in the electronic Employment Eligibility Verification [EEV] Program, commonly known as E-Verify™, for all new public contracts, work assignments, supplemental agreements, and contract addenda (also known as time extensions). Therefore, beginning July 1, 2008, the Mississippi Transportation Commission [MTC] will require contractors and consultants to provide a certification to the MTC verifying that the contractor, consultant, subcontractor, subconsultant, contract employee, staffing agency, or any vendor is registered and participating in E-Verify™ prior to execution of any of the above stated agreements. The forms for certifications will be provided by the Consultant Services Unit (CSU) when available. The current version of this Act may be viewed at the following web address:

<http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/2008/pdf/history/SB/SB2988.xml>

E-Verify™ is a free Internet-based system operated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services [USCIS], in partnership with the Social Security Administration. Information concerning E-Verify™ may be obtained by accessing the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov/E-Verify. First, select "Services and Benefits," then "Employer Information," next click the link "Services Available to Employers in the United States," and finally "Use E-Verify?" to download [Publication M-655](#) (09/07). You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view and print this publication. Further information and assistance are also available for employers from USCIS toll-free at (888) 464-4218. Employers, contractors and subcontractors can register online for E-Verify™ at <https://www.vis-dhs.com/EmployerRegistration>, which provides instructions for completing the secure registration process.

All public contracts, supplemental agreements, work assignments, and contract addenda (time extensions) executed after June 30th, 2008, are covered by this Act. Violations of this Act may result in contract cancellation, ineligibility for any state or public contract for up to three years, the loss of any Mississippi-issued license, permit, or certificate for the right to do business in Mississippi for up to one year, or both, and civil liability for any additional costs incurred by MTC or any other state agencies, institutions, or political subdivisions because of such contract cancellation or loss of licensure or permit.

VIOLATIONS ARE ALSO SUBJECT TO STATE AND FEDERAL CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.